

CHAPTER XXV.

although surprised and confounded by the sudden turn of events, Uncle Ben did not entirely lose his head. When he heard the men crying out for revenge and looked into their pitiless faces, he felt that his last hour had come. And yet the devotion of the old slave was never better illustrated than in what followed. As a portion of the crowd started for the house, no doubt fully expecting to find Kenton there, the old man shouted at the top of his voice:

"Cum back yere-cum back! Yo' kin kill me if yo' wants to, but fur God's sake dean' put yo'r feet in dat

"What's the matter?" asked one as the gang came to a balt.

De ole missus am lyin in dar dead an all alone, an it hain't fitten dat yo' should go in!" "Whar's that Yankee? Whar's the opinion. "It's goin to be nip and tnek,

gal? Whar's Steve Brayton?" was I reckon, but with the chances a leetle shouted at him. "Dun gone-all dun gone!" he an- make beld to offer some advice?" swered. "It's jest like I tole yo'-uobody in dar but de dead missus!"

"Go on, go on!" yelled Ike Baxter, "but look out fur yo'selves! The hull crowd of 'em ar' in thar, and they'll | happenin thar or what's goin to happen likely make a fight fur it!"

The men cautionsly entered the house, firearms held ready for instant use, but house. Them blamed guerrillas which at the end of seven or eight minutes follered as yesterday may open fire yero they came out to report that "the cussed any minit, and once they do she can't old nigger" had told the truth.

'Dead, ch?' exclaimed Ike Baxter as they told of the corpse on the bed. Marian prepared to start at once, Wast, I'm goin to burn the house jest the same, though mebbe some of yo' uns will lug the body outdoors fust. Time 'noff for that after we git through with this old nigger. Run he un up to that post! Now, then, chain him there! I left mine behind us in Winehester." Yo' eld black devil, but I'll make yo suffer fur the rap yo giv me last night! I'm goin to begin at yo'r chin and skin yo' cl'ar down to yo'r heels! After orier trouble yo', but yo' can't allus tell yo've bin skun we'll build a fire around what may happen. If wass comes to yo' and rout what's left!"

He went to his saddle for a rawhide. | words." one he had scenningly brought along for Kenton advised her to take it, and the occasion. When he returned with it. Brayton assisted her down to the high-Uncle Bon was stripped of cont and vest | way and said as he left her: and his shirt forn away from his shoulders. They were going to take his life, way doorin the day, but don't be narynot mercifully, as one kills a savage us about it and don't run any risks to beast by a bullet through two heart or cum and see what the trubble is. brain, but they would torture him for On approaching the house Marian hours perhaps. He could not fail to re- caught sight of the horses and men and take an inward oath that you will never alize this, but he did not beg for mercy. realized what had happened and was accept another, and during the next hour. He simply shut his eyes and prayed God bappening before she had made out the will probably be caught orain. Some thing for the sake of those in hiding the post. She had felt terribly anxions at a discount. The result is it is shifted down the road. He would be asked to about her mother as she came along the

Now, then, yo' black hound, whar the rest of the folks?" demanded instant she saw that circle of men. It Iko Baxter as he walked up to Uncle Ben and flourished the cruel whip.

Aye, he knows the exact spot whar suddenly appeared in their midst and they ar' hidfin, and he's got to tell!" cried out to stop the Baxter's uplified shouted two or three in the crowd.

"Of co'se he knows, and I'll hev it a man, so do men admire anything apouter be un mighty quick!" replied the, proaching bereism in a woman. Mar-'I'm goin to give yo' a powerful lickin, ian rested one hand on the maked shoulole man, fur the way yo' hanged me last | der of the old slave wao had trotted her night, but I'll make it a loetle easier if on his knee as a child a thousand times. yo'll tell whar they all is hid away." I has nothin to say," quietly re- stant use in the other, her alight form plied the eld man as he looked about

"What! Yo' won't tell me?" "Give it to him! Cut his hide into strings!" yelled the crowd.

Ike responded by striking Uncle Ben about 20 blows across the bare back. Each blow raised a welt, and as each one fell the victim strained and tugged at his lashings. Uncle Ben had been one spoke. Then Ike, shifting from one whipped the night before, but that was more in the nature of an assault or an attack by armed men. For the first time in his life he had been tied up and his back bared. He felt the shame and indignity almost as much as the blows.

"Yo' kin see what brong on this yere war, "said Ike as he paused for breath. "Them air Yankees was tellin our niggers that they was jest as good as thar masters. Yere's a case of it right yere, to the post. Some of the men crowded If he'd bin my nigger, he'd hev bin as a little nearer, and some muttered and humble as pumpkin pie, but the Percys, who hey allus bin balf Yankee themselves, brung him up to think he un was post on his garments, picked up the as good as anybody!" part on his garments, picked up the

Hurry up. Give he un some more!" yelled the crowd.

'Thar hain't no rush about it," replied lke as he flourished the whip. want to make it last as long as I kin. It's a dod gasted pity we hain't got 15 or 20 other niggers yere to look on and take warnin by his fate. I've allus spy itched to lick a nigger, but never had the chance befo'. Ar' yo' goin to tell me, yo' internal old imp, whar that Yankee is hidin out?" Uncle Ben sim-ply shook his head. "Yo' hain't, ch?" screamed Ike. "Then everybody stand back, fur I'm goin-I'm goin to make the blood fly all over the yard!"

Ike had his arm raised for a blow when a figure passed him and halted beside Uncle Ben. That figure had pushed its way into the circle unheard and unseen. Everybody stared in as-



tonishment, and for half a minute not a word was said. It was Marian Percy. She was known by sight to at least half | this way? If the un's hidin that Yanof the gang, and the others at once iden- | kee, then her's a sympathizer and orter tified her as "the gal" they had expect- suffer fur it! I move we shoot the niged to find in the house. Let us go back ger and burn the houses!"

a Little, When Uncle Ben left the camp "We uns won't do anything of the

among the rocks, she had intended to

been settled that Kenton must remain

where he was until a force of Federals

was brought to the rescue or until it

was known that he was in no peril from

the Confederates. While it was hoped

that Uncle Ben's mission would be suc-

cessful all realized the chances of its

failure. Both armies were scouting and

raiding up and down and across. A

hamlet or crossroads or bridge held by

the Federals one day would be in posses-

sion of the Confederates on the next,

and vice versa. Uncle Ben might en-

counter a troop of Federal cavalry and

bring them to the rescue, or he might

be picked up by a Confederate troop or

Mebbe the Yanks will come fust,

a gang of guerrillas and sent off some-

and mebbe the Confederates," replied

Steve Brayton when appealed to for his

in favor of the Confederates. Kin I

'Why, certainly," answered Marian

"Then let Miss Percy head fur home

to once. We can't tell what may be

sere. She's a Percy and a good Conred-

frate, and nobody'll dure disturb the

The advice was full of wisdom, and

"Gotting we pins in the house?" asked

'Or course. I have been sorry that

Then take this revolver. It's a big

wuss, bullets will count for mo' than

"Yo' may hear some shootin up this

of the troubles and perils surrounding

was no wonder every man in the gang-

looked at her as if spellbound when she

"Who are you, and what is the mean-

fore, she demanded:

instead of at her, muttered:

added two or three others.

the circle she said:

three or four others.

Who is he-where is he?"

fur smashin my bead last night!"

Yes, that's what we uns cum furl'

Martan deposited her weapon on the

ound and proceeded to cast off the

chain by which Uncle Ben was secured

cursed, but no one interfered. When

the slave was free, she signed to him to

You speak of capturing a Yankee.

'Yo' know who we mean," replied

And you call him a Yankee-you,

Ike Baxter!" she replied as she stepped

forward to face him. He enlisted when you did. He fought when you

ran away. He has encountered a score

of dangers to your one. He has done

more for the cause of the south than all

of you combined. When you call him

a Yankee spy, I call you a cur, and a

coward, and a disgrace to the uniform

CHAPTER XXVI.

The gang had gone far enough-per-

haps too far. The Percys were loyal

As Marian stood facing the crowd, her face expressing the contempt she

felt and her eyes flashing a menace from man to man, they began to fall back

"Dod rot my skin, but why didn't I

kill that cussed nigger when I had a

chance?" growled Ike Baxter. "Ar' yo'

all goin to let that gal stand us off in

Ike Baxter, who was recovering his as-

surance scones than the others. "We

uns want Kenton, that cussed Yankee

her, but everything was forgotten the

Steve as she was ready.

"Kin yo' shoot a pistel?"

where to work on fertifications.

and Kenton in the same breath.

wasn't in the house when yo' all searched it, then whar did she cum from?" One of the men replied that he thought he had caught sight of her up the road about five minutes before she appeared among them, but wasn't sure. Ike Baxter said he had been following Uncle Ben up the highway when assaulted, and it was rightfully concluded that the fugitives were not a great way off. Just then they were joined by three more guerrillas, and the entire gang headed up the road and were soon out of sight. As they moved away Uncle Ben's tears began to fall, and he whisfollow him within an hour. It had pered:

forward for the first time. "We uns was sent yere to captur' Kenton and Brayton, and I recken t'other things had better be left alone. If that gal

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The Civil Service of France. The form of administration in the republic is the same as that of the empire. Nothing has been altered in its organiza-tion; very little change has been made in its personnel. Our functionaries are cer ts personnes. Our runctionaries are cor-tainly too numerous; they are too poorly paid; they are inclined to routine; they do not always show the public that kindness and politeness which they should look upon as a duty. But their system is strongly established; their powers and duties are clearly defined; their aptitude is remarkable; their probity is beyond all praise. They possess in the highest degree the feeling of professional honor. This country, whose fault is a wish always to impovate, lacks traditions in government but has excellent ones in its administra-

The latter corrects the former. This strong organization of the public service enables it to go without too great damage through the greatest crises. This may have been observed at the periods of revo-lution. At such times, when everything is in commotion, the course of public busi ness does not suffer even a momentary in-terruption. The administration moves on alone in the most perilous cruds; when a new government is in power, it is ready to serve that as it served the fallen one, and to preserve newcomors as much as possi ble from the inconveniences of inexperi

The republic is therefore very well served by us civil officers, as the empire was before it. -Jules Simon in Forum.

Troublesome Coin. Canadian-coin is of no small worry in metropolisan life. Intrinsically it is worth more than our own, but practically it is commercially tabooed and is always a source of irritation and sometimes personal loss, except to those who deal in it as a an, but I guess yo' kin handle it. Bein commodity. Nearly every time you get yo' ar' a southern gal, no southern man | change a ten cent or twenty five cent Canadian coin will slip in -usually the formerwhich can scarcely be detected from our dime. Then when you are in a hurrying line at an elevated station the ticket agent will push that coin back to you Sind you must funible around for more money you should board a street car and happen to have no other change short of a five do Inr bill you will be compelled to get off and get change, for the conductor will neither accept your Canadian place nor change anything bigger than a two dollar bill.

You may not have noticed up to that time that you had the doubtful coin. You to give him strength to endure every. figure of the layed old slave chained to tradesmen will take the coin at par, others on somebody else and gets passed around accompliste and finally sell it to a broker who in turn makes a good margin on it by country.-New York Cor. Pittsburg Dispatch.

> Effect of Reat and Electricity on Gold. It has been proved that the most violenarm. As women despise cowardice in heat of our glass house furnaces will no though silver and many other metals are vaporized at this high temperature. An ounce of gold was kept for a month in the did not lose weight. However, a still more wholent heat will volutible it, by submitand holding the reverver ready for inting gold to the leat of a blast furnace, for instance, the metal may be seen to rise in drawn up, her brown eyes flashing, her fumes, which will attach themselves to a handsome face handsomer than ever beplate of silver suspended about five inches above the molten gold, so as to gild it.

> A moderately strong electric discharge will volatilize gold in the form of a beauti-Every man instinctively fell back a. ful violet delored vapor. In this experi step or two. Ike Baxter lethis arm fall, ment, if we make use of a gilded silk and no one dared look the girl full in the electric discharge carries off all the gold, leaving the silk intact. Like all met the face. For a long half minute no als, gold is a good concluctor of electricity foot to the other and looking past her but there would be no advantage in usin it for telegraph wires or lightning conduct ors, as copper is a much better conductor "We use cum yere to captur' that cussed Yankee and pay this nigger off than gold.-Chambers' Journal.

The Dominion of Canada embraces to day under the federal government the en-tire territory of British North America, in cluding the blands, with the exception of Newfoundland, which has so far preferred to remain outside the confederation. This vast area is divided into seven provinces and four territories. The provinces are as follows, taken in the order of their population and wealth; Ontario, Quebec, Scotis, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia. The four territories, which include vast areas of prairie land in the great northwest, very thinly populated, are Alberta, Assimi-bola Kast, Assimbola West and Susketchewan.-Chicago Herald.

First toast carefully on both sides what bread is required and place it where it will keep warm. Then put a small piece of butter in the spider and melt, but do not burn it. Now turn in cold milk sufficient for the bread, reserving a little, into which put flour enough to thicken, beating or mashing out with a spoon every they lump of flour. As soon as the milk in the spider begins to simmer turn in very slowly the milk and flour, stirring all the while. Continue to stir for five minutes or longer, till the gravy is very smooth,

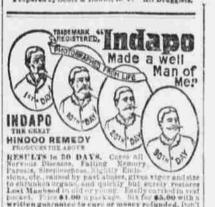
The fire must be only moderate. Now take off the spider and place it on the back of the range and season the gravy carefully. Put in a piece of butter about as large as a cracker. If this does not southerners and people of influence, and this disgraceful raid, even though made needed and stir until the butter is disunder a reasonable pretext, might be sternly rebuked by higher authorities. Those in citizens' dress were no better than prowlers; those in uniform had no authority beyond what Ike Baxter asthe oven for about three minutes, then serve. This is one of Good Housekeep-

Making Popeorn Balls. For S quarts of corn take a cupful of molasses and one-balf cupful of sugar No water will be needed. Boil the sirup until it hardens in water, but is not brittle, and then add one-quarter teaspoonful of soda. Pour this over the corn, mix all together thoroughly and form into balls. The hands should be greased to prevent sticking. Instead of the molasses, 2 cupfuls of sugar, with water to dissolve, may be used.

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